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C O N F I D E N T I A L MANAMA 001689

SIPDIS

DEPT FOR NEA/FO AND NEA/ARPI

E.O. 12958: DECL: 11/09/2014

TAGS: [OVIP](#) [PREL](#) [BA](#)

SUBJECT: KING HAMAD VISIT TO WASHINGTON

Classified By: Ambassador William T. Monroe for reasons 1.4 (b) and (d)

[11](#). (C) In a November 8 discussion following Deputy Secretary Armitage's meeting with King Hamad the night before

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(septel), Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Dr. Mohammad Abdul Ghaffar told the Deputy Secretary the King wanted to meet with President Bush in Washington in the coming weeks to discuss ways Bahrain could be helpful as current chair of the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC). In particular, he noted the upcoming GCC summit December 20 when the issues of Iraq, the Israeli-Palestinian conflict and counterterrorism were likely to be discussed. The Deputy Secretary said he would pass the message.

[12](#). (C) Embassy Manama urges positive consideration of a visit. It would be a good opportunity to raise with the King not only GCC issues in preparation for the summit, but also key bilateral issues on our agenda, most notably counterterrorism.

MONROE